

Megumi Yamashita #51
February 11, 1985

Q: Mr. Yamashita, how long had you been in the Honolulu Fire Department on December 7th, 1941?

A: 17 years.

Q: So you had been for 17 years, huh?

A: Yes, as hoseman.

Q: As hoseman? What fire station were you working at then?

A: Number 4 Company.

Q: Where was that station?

A: Palama.

Q: In Palama? How did you first know that something out of the ordinary was happening that morning?

A: That morning I knew from Sgt. Nobiga.(??)

Q: How did he know?

A: He had notice from the police main office.

Q: Did he have a radio?

A: Yeah he had a radio.

Q: Was Sgt. Nobiga(??) at the Palama Fire Station?

A: Yeah, just before he came down to the Fire Station and parked in the carport (not sure of context; very difficult to understand)

Q: Could you see anything from the Fire Station when you looked out toward Pearl Harbor?

A: Yeah. I could see the planes going downward and then the explosion was black smoke instead of the white smoke. Then I think something wrong; something funny happens. (remainder of this text is difficult to understand) ... Then our telephone rang. Then I knew so I came down ... (cannot understand)

** Mr. Yamashita has a very heavy local accent that is extremely difficult to understand. I was unable to transcribe much of the context which is essential to his story.